AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1 (currently amended): A method comprising:

inquiring in a first transaction about a first telecommunication feature unavailable to a first party of a telecommunication network;

in accordance with the inquiring in the first transaction, storing a first data structure which identifies the first party of the telecommunication network and the first telecommunication feature unavailable to the first party;

after storing the first data structure, and after completion of the first transaction, upgrading a portion of the telecommunication network which serves the first party;

after upgrading the portion of the telecommunication network which serves the first party, inputting availability data which indicates an availability of the first telecommunication feature to a the portion of the telecommunication network which serves the first party; and

processing the first data structure and the availability data to determine that the first telecommunication feature has become available to the first party.

2 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

before inputting the availability data, storing a second data structure which identifies a second party of the telecommunication network and the first telecommunication feature unavailable to the second party; and

processing the second data structure and the availability data to determine that the first telecommunication feature remains unavailable to the second party.

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3 (original): The method of claim 1 before inputting availability data, storing a second data structure which identifies a second party of the telecommunication network and a second telecommunication feature unavailable to the second party; and

processing the second data structure and the availability data to determine that the second telecommunication feature remains unavailable to the second party.

4 (cancelled).

5 (original): The method of claim 1 further comprising, prior to inputting the availability data:

receiving a call from the first party; and

informing, in the call, that the first telecommunication feature is unavailable to the first party.

6 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the first telecommunication feature comprises a telecommunication service.

7 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the first telecommunication feature comprises a telecommunication product.

8 (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the telecommunication network comprises a telephone network.

9 (currently amended): A method comprising:

receiving a first call from a first party of a telecommunication network;

determining that a first telecommunication feature is unavailable to the first party;

informing, in the first call, that the first telecommunication feature is unavailable to the first party;

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storing a first data structure which identifies the first party and the first telecommunication feature unavailable to the first party;

receiving a second call from a second party;

determining that a second telecommunication feature is unavailable to the second party;

informing, in the second call, that the second telecommunication feature is unavailable to the second party;

storing a second data structure which identifies the second party and the second telecommunication feature unavailable to the second party;

receiving a third call from a third party;

determining that the first telecommunication feature is unavailable to the third party;

informing, in the third call, that the first telecommunication feature is unavailable to the third party;

storing a third data structure which identifies the third party and the first telecommunication feature unavailable to the third party;

after storing the first data structure, the second data structure, and the third data structure and after the first call, the second call, and the third call have terminated, upgrading a portion of the telecommunication network which serves the first party;

after upgrading the portion of the telecommunication network which serves the first party, inputting availability data which indicates and availability of the first telecommunication feature to a portion of the telecommunication network which serves the first party but not the third party;

processing the first data structure, the second data structure, the third data structure, and the availability data to determine that the first telecommunication feature has become available to the first party but remains unavailable to the third party; and

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after the first call, the second call, and the third call have terminated, notifying the first party in a fourth call that the first telecommunication feature has become available to the first party.

10 (currently amended): An apparatus comprising:

a database comprising a first data structure which identifies a first party of a telecommunication network and a first telecommunication feature unavailable to the first party, wherein the first data structure is generated in response to a first inquiry;

a computer to receive availability data which indicates an availability of the first telecommunication feature to a portion of the telecommunication network which serves the first party, wherein the computer receives availability data after the completion of the first inquiry and after generation of the first data structure and after upgrading the portion of the telecommunication network which serves the first party, the computer to process the first data structure and the availability data to determine that the first telecommunication feature has become available to the first party.

11 (original): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the database further comprises a second data structure which identifies a second party of the telecommunication network and the first telecommunication feature unavailable to the second party, and wherein the computer is to process the second data structure and the availability data to determine that the first telecommunication feature remains unavailable to the second party.

12 (original): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the database further comprises a second data structure which identifies a second party of the telecommunication network and a second telecommunication feature unavailable to the second party, and wherein the computer is to process the second data

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structure and the availability data to determine that the second telecommunication feature remains unavailable to the second party.

13 (cancelled).

14 (original): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the first telecommunication feature comprises a telecommunication service.

15 (original): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the first telecommunication feature comprises a telecommunication product.

16 (original): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein the telecommunication network comprises a telephone network.

17 (original): A computer readable medium whose contents cause a computer to store a first data structure which identifies a first party of a telecommunication network and a first telecommunication feature unavailable to the first party, to receive availability data which indicates an availability of the first telecommunication feature to a portion of the telecommunication network which serves the first party, and to process the first data structure and the availability data to determine that the first telecommunication feature has become available to the first party.

17 (currently amended): A computer-readable medium whose contents cause a computer to store a first data structure which identifies a first party of a telecommunication network and a first telecommunication feature unavailable to the first party, after completion of storage of the first data structure, and after, at a later time, upgrading a portion of the telecommunication network which serves the first party, to receive availability data which indicates an availability of the first telecommunication feature to a the portion of the telecommunication network which serves the first party, and to process the first data structure and the

availability data to determine that the first telecommunication feature has become available to the first party.

18 (original): The computer readable medium of claim 17 wherein the contents further cause the computer to store a second data structure which identifies a second party of the telecommunication network and the first telecommunication feature unavailable to the second party, and to process the second data structure and the availability data to determine that the first telecommunication feature remains unavailable to the second party.

19 (original): The computer readable medium of claim 17 wherein the contents further cause the computer to store a second data structure which identifies a second party of the telecommunication network and a second telecommunication feature unavailable to the second party, and to process the second data structure and the availability data to determine that the second telecommunication feature remains unavailable to the second party.

20 (cancelled).

21 (original): The computer readable medium of claim 17 wherein the first telecommunication feature comprises a telecommunication service.

22 (original): The computer readable medium of claim 17 wherein the first telecommunication feature comprises a telecommunication product.

23 (original): The computer readable medium of claim 17 wherein the telecommunication network comprises a telephone network.

24 (previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising:
            after completion of the first transaction, at a later time notifying the first party in a second transaction that the first telecommunication feature has become available to the first party.

25 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 10 wherein, after completion of the first inquiry, generation of the first data structure, and determining that the first telecommunication feature has become available to the first party, the computer outputs a signal to initiate notifying the first party that the first telecommunication feature has become available to the first party.

26 (previously presented): The computer-readable medium of claim 17 wherein, after completion of storage of the first data structure and after processing the first data structure and the availability data, the contents further cause the computer to output a signal to initiate notifying the first party that the first telecommunication feature has become available to the first party.

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